

Growth Group Discussion Q's

April 26, 2026

- **Fun Discussion Starter:** What is the last (non-food) item you bought for yourself?

ESTHER: Hiding in Plain Sight

This Sunday we began a new study on the book of Esther. Pastor Mark presented the question the reader is compelled to ask: Where is God?

- Esther is one of two books of the bible where God is never mentioned. Though there are clear “good” characters (Mordecai & Esther) and “bad” characters (Xerxes & Haman), the good characters are not portrayed as necessarily righteous, or even religious. At first reading, the story is told from an entirely secular viewpoint.
- This appears to be intentional from the author’s viewpoint to compel the reader to wrestle with the integration of faith and God’s activity in the details of the story. Hence, the implied question for the reader: Where is God?

Homework for the week:

The author of Esther records important coincidental and serendipitous interactions and dramatic reversals in the story that on one level can be attributed to random happy coincidence. However, when observing the details of the story through eyes of faith, one can see God “hiding in plain sight” in the details of the story.

Pastor Mark suggested two action steps this week to begin to answer this important question:

1. Read the Book of Esther: Where do you see God’s activity throughout the story?
2. Similarly, pay attention to the details of your life and interactions with other people this week. Where do you see God at work in the ordinary details of your life? Where do you see His love for you? His provision? Serendipitous interactions?

Share with the group your observations and any “Aha!” moments you may have experienced this week.